

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SOURCE

The translation of a leaflet, dated February 1954, of the National Resistance Front, addressed to the Venezuelan people is as follows:

NATIONAL RESISTANCE FRONT

Bulletin Number 1

Venezuelans, Civilians and Military

The NATIONAL RESISTANCE FRONT takes the occasion of the Tenth Inter-American Conference being held in Caracas to address itself to the Venezuelan people.

The NATIONAL RESISTANCE FRONT realizes the opposition of the Venezuelan public and its desire to struggle, united against the most bloody tyranny in our history. It is a concrete expression of national disgust, without regard for ideological differences, against a police state founded without regard for the rights of the people, making a mockery of public rule, which exists by political assassination, indefinite detention of thousands of citizens in prisons and concentration camps, brutal and inhuman tortures carried out in prisons by an all-powerful police force, deportation of masses of citizens, and the permanent breaking up of homes.

These tragic circumstances have increased in extraordinary form because of the Tenth Inter-American Conference. A wave of fierce repression has been let loose in Caracas and the rest of the country to quiet a unanimous voice of a nation tyrannized and mocked by its government. The Doctrine of Human Rights proclaimed by the United Nations and agreed on by the Ninth Conference in Bogota has been flagrantly violated.

Not only in the defense of the life, security, and dignity of Venezuelans did the NATIONAL RESISTANCE FRONT, come into being, but also because of the determination of a public which wishes to remove a system that, besides being founded in terror and systematic assassination, destroys the national inheritance by means of a continuous policy of squandering and robbing the Public Treasury, of the abandonment of the great tasks that the country demanded for its economic liberation and for the benefit to the majority, while they carry to completion ornamental and ostentatious constructions that jeopardize and mortgage the national destiny.

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In order to establish in the country a secure political climate, to move the country along the path of legality, to obtain the cessation of crimes, tortures, exiles, and collective anguish, the NATIONAL RESISTANCE FRONT calls upon all Venezuelans, military and civilian, to the general public, to the armed forces in whose name Perez Jimenez and his clique claim to govern, to struggle together for a regime of decent administration that will be an expression of the popular will.

VENEZUELAN, CIVILIANS AND MILITARY

Let us fight: for the cessation of crimes and the terror; for the liberation of the political prisoners; for the return of exiles; and for a government that respects the liberties and rights of the Venezuelans!

ALL UNITED IN THE NATIONAL RESISTANCE FRONT!!

Caracas, February 1954

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☐ Comment. The National Resistance Front was formed especially for activities designed to discredit the Tenth Inter-American Conference. It is composed of the Venezuelan Communist Party (PCV), the Democratic Republican Union (URD), and the Committee of Independent Electoral Political Organization (COPEI). It is believed that the group will disappear with the closing of the conference.

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